

TITLEFLUORINATED ARYLETHERS AND METHODS FOR USE THEREOFFIELD OF THE INVENTION

5 The invention relates generally to fluorinated solvents and specifically to fluorinated arylethers and methods for use thereof.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Organic electronic devices play an important role in industry. For example, organic light emitting diodes (OLEDs) are promising for display applications due to their high power conversion efficiency and low processing costs. Such displays are especially promising for battery-powered, portable electronic devices, including cell-phones, personal digital assistants, handheld personal computers, and DVD players. These applications call for displays with high information content, full color, and fast video rate response time in addition to low power consumption.

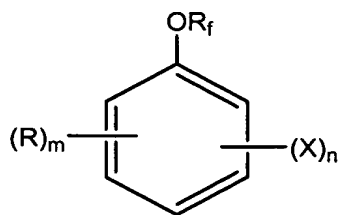
15 OLED's typically contain electroluminescent (EL) layers arranged between an anode and a cathode. Each EL layer contributes to the overall performance of the display. Thus, when manufacturing a display containing an OLED, each EL layer is carefully deposited in a controlled fashion onto a suitable underlying surface.

20 One cost-efficient method for deposition of EL layers in the manufacture of such displays is solution deposition. Solution deposition typically involves depositing a layer from solution using a variety of well-known techniques, such as, e.g., spin coating and ink-jetting. Efficient solution deposition depends, at least in part, on the appropriate combination of active materials, for example, light-emitting material and a solvent for the EL material. As such, one area currently drawing the attention of researchers is the identification of solvents for optimum solution deposition properties, which in turn results in cost-efficient production of devices containing OLED displays.

30 SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The invention provides fluorinated solvents useful for solution deposition of organic active materials in the manufacture of organic electronic devices. In one embodiment, there are provided compounds having the structure:

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wherein:

R is C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₁-C₁₀ alkoxy, or C₁-C₁₀ oxyalkyl,

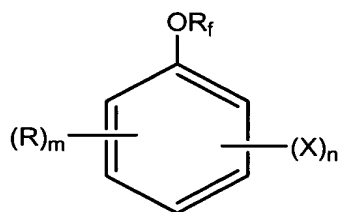
R_f is C₁-C₁₀ fluorinated alkyl, C₁-C₁₀ fluorinated alkenyl, C₁-C₁₀ fluorinated oxyalkyl, or C₁-C₁₀ fluorinated oxyalkenyl, and

X is H, F, Cl, Br, C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₁-C₁₀ alkoxy C₁-C₁₀ oxyalkyl, C₁-C₁₀ fluorinated alkyl, C₁-C₁₀ fluorinated alkenyl, C₁-C₁₀ fluorinated oxyalkyl, or C₁-C₁₀ fluorinated oxyalkenyl,

m is from 1-5, and

n is from 0-4, wherein m + n is no greater than 5.

In another embodiment, there are provided organic electronic devices having at least one organic active layer, deposited from a solution, wherein the solution comprises at least one compound having the structure:



wherein:

R is C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₁-C₁₀ alkoxy, or C₁-C₁₀ oxyalkyl,

R_f is C₁-C₁₀ fluorinated alkyl, C₁-C₁₀ fluorinated alkenyl, C₁-C₁₀ fluorinated oxyalkyl, or C₁-C₁₀ fluorinated oxyalkenyl, and

X is H, F, Cl, Br, C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₁-C₁₀ alkoxy C₁-C₁₀ oxyalkyl, C₁-C₁₀ fluorinated alkyl, C₁-C₁₀ fluorinated alkenyl, C₁-C₁₀ fluorinated oxyalkyl, or C₁-C₁₀ fluorinated oxyalkenyl,

m is from 0-5, and

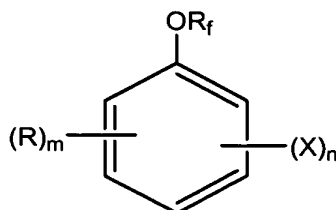
n is from 0-5, wherein m + n is no greater than 5.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is an exemplary electronic device.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

It has been found that certain fluorinated arylethers are useful as
5 solvents for solution deposition of organic active materials onto a variety of surfaces. In one embodiment, there are provided compounds having the structure:



wherein:

- 10 R is C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₁-C₁₀ alkoxy, or C₁-C₁₀ oxyalkyl,
R_f is C₁-C₁₀ fluorinated alkyl, C₁-C₁₀ fluorinated alkenyl, C₁-C₁₀
fluorinated oxyalkyl, or C₁-C₁₀ fluorinated oxyalkenyl, and
X is H, F, Cl, Br, C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₁-C₁₀ alkoxy C₁-C₁₀ oxyalkyl,
C₁-C₁₀ fluorinated alkyl, C₁-C₁₀ fluorinated alkenyl, C₁-C₁₀
15 fluorinated oxyalkyl, or C₁-C₁₀ fluorinated oxyalkenyl,
m is from 1-5, and
n is from 0-4, wherein m + n is no greater than 5.

In the compounds of the invention, the R group is not fluorinated.

As used herein, the term "solution deposition" refers to any method
20 for depositing a liquid medium onto a substrate only includes, but is not limited to continuous and discontinuous deposition techniques such as Gravure coating, stamping, slit-die, printing, ink-jetting, ink-dispersion, screen-printing, spin-coating, rolling, curtain coating, dipping, and extruding and other conventional techniques. As used herein, the term
25 "liquid medium" is intended to mean a material that is predominantly a liquid, and encompasses solutions, dispersions, emulsions, and the like.

As used herein, the term "alkyl" refers to a monovalent straight or branched chain hydrocarbon group having from one to about 10 carbon atoms, including methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, isobutyl, tert-
30 butyl, n-hexyl, and the like.

As used herein, "alkoxy" refers to the moiety -O-alkyl-, wherein alkyl is as defined above.

As used herein, "oxyalkyl" refers to alkyl moieties in which at least one -CH₂- unit of the alkyl moiety has been replaced by an oxygen atom.

As used herein, "alkenyl" refers to straight or branched chain hydrocarbyl groups having from 2 to about 10 carbon atoms and having one or more carbon-carbon double bonds.

As used herein, "oxyalkenyl" refers to alkenyl moieties in which at least one -CH₂- unit of the alkenyl moiety has been replaced by an oxygen atom.

As used herein, "fluorinated" means that at least one hydrogen atom of the alkyl, alkenyl, oxyalkyl, or oxyalkenyl moiety has been replaced with a fluorine atom.

As used herein, "perfluorinated" refers to an alkyl, alkenyl, oxyalkyl, or oxyalkenyl moiety in which each and every hydrogen atom has been replaced with a fluorine atom.

As used herein, the term "R_f" refers to a fluorinated group.

The IUPAC numbering system is used throughout, where the groups from the Periodic Table are numbered from left to right as 1-18 (CRC Handbook of Chemistry and Physics, 81st Edition, 2000).

As used herein, the terms "comprises," "comprising," "includes," "including," "has," "having" or any other variation thereof, are intended to cover a non-exclusive inclusion. For example, a process, method, article, or apparatus that comprises a list of elements is not necessarily limited to only those elements but may include other elements not expressly listed or inherent to such process, method, article, or apparatus. Further, unless expressly stated to the contrary, "or" refers to an inclusive or and not to an exclusive or. For example, a condition A or B is satisfied by any one of the following: A is true (or present) and B is false (or not present), A is false (or not present) and B is true (or present), and both A and B are true (or present).

Also, use of the "a" or "an" are employed to describe elements and components of the invention. This is done merely for convenience and to give a general sense of the invention. This description should be read to include one or at least one and the singular also includes the plural unless it is obvious that it is meant otherwise.

Unless otherwise defined, all technical and scientific terms used herein have the same meaning as commonly understood by one of ordinary skill in the art to which this invention belongs. Although methods and materials similar or equivalent to those described herein can be used

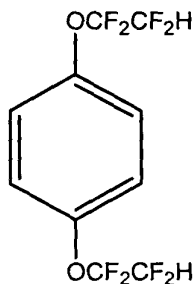
in the practice or testing of the present invention, suitable methods and materials are described below. All publications, patent applications, patents, and other references mentioned herein are incorporated by reference in their entirety. In case of conflict, the present specification, including definitions, will control. In addition, the materials, methods, and examples are illustrative only and not intended to be limiting.

In some embodiments of the invention, R_f is C_1 - C_{10} fluorinated alkyl, C_1 - C_{10} fluorinated alkenyl, C_1 - C_{10} fluorinated oxyalkyl, or C_1 - C_{10} fluorinated oxyalkenyl.

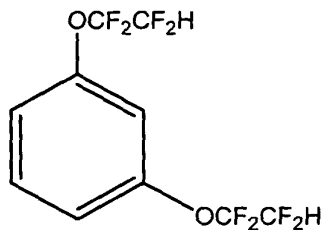
In other embodiments, R and X are each independently C_1 - C_{10} alkyl or C_1 - C_{10} alkoxy.

In certain other embodiments, R_f is a C_1 - C_3 fluorinated alkyl, such as, for example, $-\text{CF}_2\text{CF}_2\text{H}$.

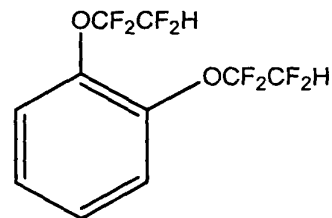
Exemplary fluorinated aryl ethers contemplated for use in the practice of the invention include, but are not limited to:



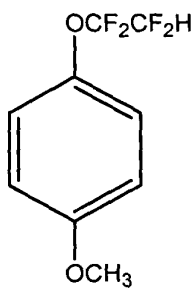
A



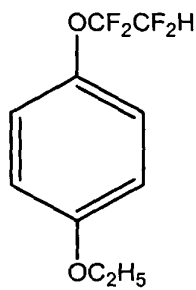
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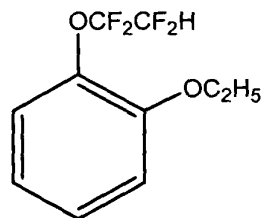
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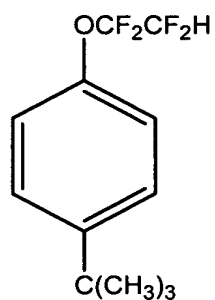
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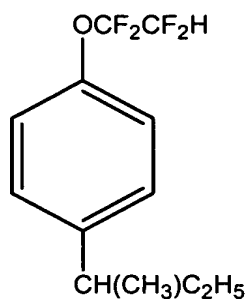
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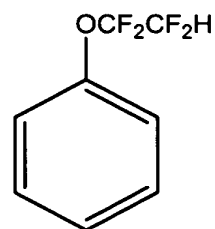
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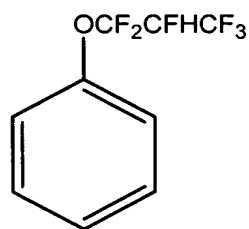
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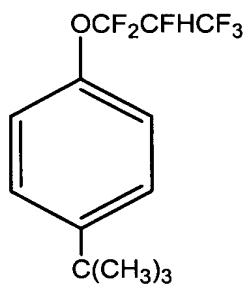
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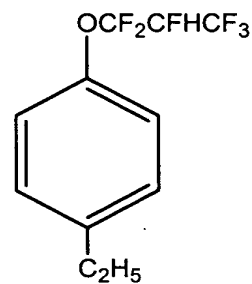
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M



N



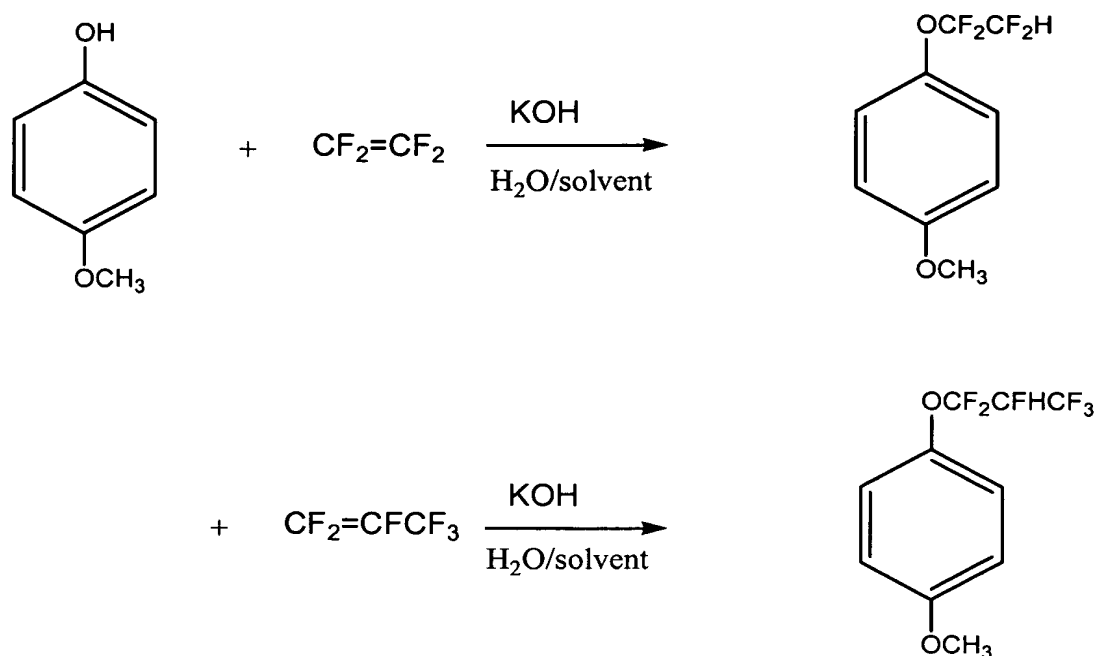
O

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Compounds of the invention can be prepared by a variety of methods known to those skilled in the art. For example, aryl-1,1,2,2-tetrafluoroethyl ethers can be made using the procedure reported in GB Patent 1,320,648 (1973) by reacting the appropriate phenol with tetrafluoroethylene in the presence of base, in water-mixable solvent, as set forth below in Scheme 1.

Scheme 1



Scheme 1 depicts a reaction between a phenol and a suitable fluorinated olefin in the presence of a base catalyst, resulting in the corresponding fluorinated arylether. The reactions outlined above employ a C₂ and a C₃ fluorinated olefin, i.e., tetrafluoroethylene and hexafluoropropylene, respectively, however, it is understood that any C₁-C₁₀ fluorinated olefin is suitable for use in preparing new fluorinated aryl ethers. Aryl-1,1,1,2,3,3-hexafluoropropyl ethers **M**, **N** and **O** were prepared similarly, by reacting phenolic compound in the presence of base with hexafluoropropene, instead of tetrafluoroethylene. It should be pointed out, that in this case isolated product contained 6-8% of unsaturated material [CF₃CF=CFOAr], forming in the reaction as byproduct. The reaction set forth in Scheme 1 is typically carried out in polar solvents or polar solvent mixtures, such as, for example, water, water/acetonitrile, and the like. The reaction is typically carried out at a temperature of at least about 80°C for about 10-15 hours. Reaction conditions and boiling points of polyfluorinated aryl ethers are given in Table 1 of Example 1.

The fluorinated arylethers described herein are useful for solution deposition of organic active materials onto a wide variety of substrates in organic electronic devices. Such materials can be inorganic or organic, polymers or small molecules, dyes or dopants, and can be fluorescent or

phosphorescent emitters organic active or photoactive sensitive, charge (electron and hole) transport materials or buffer layer materials useful in a wide variety of organic electronic devices.

Organic electronic devices include: (1) devices that convert
5 electrical energy into radiation (e.g., a light-emitting diode, light-emitting diode display, or diode laser), (2) devices that detect signals through electronics processes (e.g., photodetectors (e.g., photoconductive cells, photoresistors, photoswitches, phototransistors, phototubes), IR detectors), (3) devices that convert radiation into electrical energy (e.g., a
10 photovoltaic device or solar cell), and (4) devices that include one or more electronic components that include one or more organic semi-conductor layers (e.g., a transistor or diode). By utilizing new fluorinated arylethers, these organic active materials can be deposited from solution onto surfaces of inorganic materials such as a metal or metal oxide (such as,
15 e.g., indium/tin oxide), The organic active materials can also be deposited onto organic polymer-based materials, such as for example, polyaniline (PAni), polyethylenedioxythiophene (PEDOT), and the like.

The fluorinated arylethers described herein are useful in the manufacture of electronic devices. FIG. 1 is a schematic of an exemplary
20 electronic device, an organic light-emitting diode (OLED) display, and layer 100 includes a photoactive layer positioned between two electrical contact layers. The electronic device 100 includes a hole transport layer 120 located between the photoactive layer 130 and an anode layer 110. An optional electron transport layer 140 is located between the
25 photoactive layer 130 and a cathode layer 150. Depending on the application of the device 100, the photoactive layer 130 can be a light-emitting layer that is activated by an applied voltage (such as in a light-emitting diode or light-emitting electrochemical cell), a layer of material that responds to radiant energy and generates a signal with or without an
30 applied bias voltage (such as in a photodetector). Examples of photodetectors include photoconductive cells, photoresistors, photoswitches, phototransistors, phototubes, and photovoltaic cells, as described in Markus, John, *Electronics and Nucleonics Dictionary*, 470 and 476 (McGraw-Hill, Inc., 1966). The device is not limited with respect
35 to system, driving method, and utility mode.

By utilizing fluorinated arylethers, the photoactive materials can be cast from solution onto the anode, typically a metal or metal oxide (such as, e.g., indium/tin oxide), or onto organic polymer-based hole transport

layers, such as for example, polyaniline (PAni), olyethylenedioxythiophene (PEDOT), and the like. Alternatively, the EL materials can be cast onto the cathode or electron injection layer.

New fluorinated arylethers may be useful in other applications such as refrigerants, heat transfer media, polymerization media, particulate removal fluids, carrier fluids, buffing abrasive agents, displacement drying agents, and the like.

The invention will now be described in greater detail by reference to the following non-limiting examples.

EXAMPLES

Example 1

This Example describes a typical protocol for preparing new fluorinated arylethers. A 400 mL Hastelloy shaker tube was charged with a mixture of water, acetonitrile, and KOH, and was then cooled down to -50°C . The tube was evacuated, charged with a fluorinated olefin (in the Examples set forth in Table 1, the fluorinated olefin is either tetrafluoroethylene or hexafluoropropylene; commercially available, DuPont) and maintained at a temperature of $80-150^{\circ}\text{C}$ for 1-14 h. The reaction mixture was then diluted with water (500-600 mL), and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (100 mL). After separation the organic layer was washed with 10% NaOH solution (500 mL x 3), and dried over MgSO_4 . The solvent was removed under vacuum and the liquid residue was distilled under reduced pressure. Table 1 sets forth experimental data used to produce thirteen fluorinated arylethers according to the invention.

Table 1

		Phenol / olefin (mol)	Catalyst (mol)	CH_3CN / water (mL)	Temp. ($^{\circ}\text{C}$)	Time (h)	Yield (%)	B.P. ($^{\circ}\text{C}$)/ mm Hg
1	A	0.2/0.5	KOH (0.17)	50/100	130	14	70	80-81/ 10
2	B	0.2/0.5	KOH (0.17)	50/100	130	14	77	43-44/ 0.17
3	C	0.2/0.5	KOH (0.17)	50/100	130	14	81	39-40/ 0.1
4	D	0.4/0.5	KOH (0.17)	50/100	150	14	77	46-47/ 0.14
5	E	0.5/0.5	KOH (0.17)	50/100	150	14	68	18-22/ 0.8
6	F	0.4/0.5	KOH	50/100	150	14	66	80-81/

			(0.17)					12
7	G	0.4/0.5	KOH (0.17)	50/100	150	14	45	24-25/ 0.1
8	I	0.4/0.5	KOH (0.17)	50/100	150	14	33	40/ 0.1
9	K	0.4/0.5	KOH (0.17)	50/100	150	14	53	42-44/ 0.1
10	L	0.5/0.5	KOH (0.17)	50/100	150	14	68	19-22/ 0.1
11	M	0.5/0.5	KOH (0.17)	50/100	80	12	76	54-55/ 12
12	N	0.2/0.2	KOH (0.17)	50/100	80	12	69	52/ 0.2
13	O	0.2/0.2	KOH (0.08)	50/100	80	12	63	38-40/ 0.5

While the invention has been described in detail with reference to certain preferred embodiments thereof, it will be understood that modifications and variations are within the spirit and scope of that which is

5 described and claimed.